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# KeizerSports

KEIZERTIMES.COM

## Keizer Little League All-Stars win district

For the first time in almost two decades, the Keizer Little League All-Stars (8-9-10 Division) softball team is heading to the Little League state tournament.

The All-Stars defeated Dallas twice at Keizer Little League Park Saturday, June 23, to win the state berth.

In the first game, the Keizer team won 18-11 in six innings. The second time around, Keizer pulled out a 12-2 win in four innings.

Keizer scored eight runs in the first inning of both games.

At the plate, Marlina Martinez was 2-for-3 and scored three runs in the first game. She also pitched the first three innings, allowing two hits and one earned run while recording seven strikeouts.


Madelyn Sponable, who scored four runs, finished off Dallas in the circle.

Pacia Winter scored two runs. Courtney Corron and Isabella Harding each had two RBIs.

Martinez and Sponable again combined to defeat

**ATHLETE**  
*of the Week*

presented by



**Keizer All-Stars**



Keizer Little League's 8-9-10 year old All-Star softball team defeated Dallas on Saturday, June 23 to win the District 7 Championship at Keizer Little League Park. Submitted

Dallas in game two. Sponable pitched the first three innings and Martinez got the final three outs.

Batting leadoff, Sponable scored three runs and drove in two. Natilee Corron scored two runs in the rout.

Coach Nate McClenny said it was the first time in 19 years that the 8-9-10 division team has made it to the state tournament.

The state tournament will be held in Medford July 18-21.

Players are: Jeily Ramirez-Sierra, Ellie McClenny, Madelyn Sponable, Carmen

Thomas, Jordyn Cortez, Makiya Page, Isabella Harding, Annabelle Davis, Marlina

Martinez, Pacia Winter, Shayla Mendoza, Courtney Corron, Baylie Imig and Natalie

Corron. Assistant coaches are Calli Sponable and Zac Thompson.

## Top prospect shines for Volcanoes



Gregory Santos, an 18-year-old from the Dominican Republic, is the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes top prospect according to MLB.com. Santos made his United States debut with the Volcanoes on Saturday, June 16 and earned his first win on June 21 in Boise. KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

### Dominican 18-year-old, Santos, makes U.S. debut

By **DEREK WILEY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Gregory Santos wanted to be an outfielder because he liked to hit.

But at age 11, Santos began proving he belonged on the mound.

At 16, Santos, with his 90-plus mile per hour fastball, caught the eye of a Boston Red Sox scout.

He signed with the organization on Aug. 28, 2015 for \$275,000.

With his newfound wealth, Santos bought his family a home in the Dominican Republic and opened a grocery store for his parents.

"We always think that way in the Dominican Republic," said Hector Borg, Santos' manager with the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes. "When we sign, we always want to buy a house for our mom and dad and want them to be comfortable. Because 85 percent and maybe more of the players from the Dominican, we come from the bottom."

Santos grew up in San Cristóbal, the birthplace of former Major League Baseball players Raúl Mondesí and José



**VOLCANOES**  
**BASEBALL**  
*This Week*

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 4**  
vs. HILLSBORO Hops  
6:35 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 5**  
vs. HILLSBORO Hops  
6:35 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 6**  
vs. HILLSBORO Hops  
6:35 p.m.

Guillén. Pitching for the Red Sox Dominican Summer League team in 2016, Santos went 3-3 with a 4.17 ERA over 41 innings.

Watching his teammates get called up to the United States... Please see SANTOS, Page 13



## Girls got game

McNary High School hosted 47 girls at its summer youth basketball camp on June 18-21. Led by head varsity coach Elizabeth Doran, assistant coach Deven Hunter and Lady Celt players, campers played games and learned the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, shooting and defense. More photos on A13 Submitted